

REMARKS

Claims 40-121 are pending in the application. Of these pending claims, claims 40-52 and 64-121 have been allowed. By this Amendment, claims 53-63 are amended to correct minor informalities. In addition, the specification is amended to supply the patent number of the application incorporated by reference in the specification.

Applicant takes this opportunity to thank the Examiner for the reconsideration of this application and the withdrawal of the suspension of action issued on May 15, 2005.

In the Office Action, the disclosure is objected to because the specification makes reference to an earlier filed application. In response, Applicant amended the specification to supply the patent number of that earlier filed application, as requested by the Examiner. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection.

Claims 53-63 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. In particular, the Examiner notes that, while the preamble of independent claim 52 recites "a blade," dependent claims 53-63 make reference to the blade as "scissor blade." To remove this inconsistency, Applicant amended the term "scissor blade" in the preamble of each of dependent claims 53-63 to read --blade--, as suggested by the Examiner. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant believes that all pending claims are in condition for allowance.

The Office Action includes an Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance, which contains a number of statements and characterizations regarding the allowed

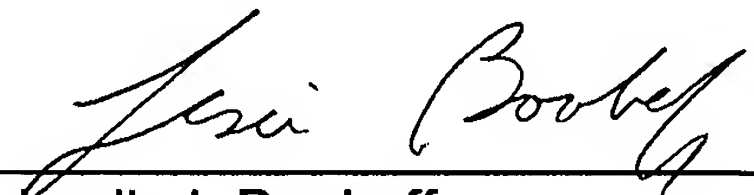
claims and the related art. Applicant declines to necessarily subscribe to any statement or characterization in the Office Action, regardless of whether it is addressed above.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: January 10, 2006

By: 
Leslie I. Bookoff
Reg. No. 38,084